

# Hurricane Katrina Update

# *New* Direction

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If you have information or photos you'd like to submit for consideration in the newsletter please send to [maria.tolleson@navy.mil](mailto:maria.tolleson@navy.mil).

## SSC NOLA Team Keeps ASOCC Going

By Teresa Leger  
SSC NOLA Public Affairs Office

After Hurricane Katrina reeked havoc on the Gulf Coast, SPAWAR Systems Center New Orleans (SSC New Orleans) personnel responsible for the Area Security Operations Command and Control (ASOCC) system responded immediately.

Within days after the destruction occurred, team members whom were spread across the nation began working out of their alternate locations to guarantee ASOCC was functional. The generators at the SSC New Orleans facilities were initially able to keep the system running. Within a week of the catastrophic event, the SSC New Orleans ASOCC team had an interim system stood-up in the Washington DC area and the 1-800 help number was fully functional and providing Help Desk functions, pilot support, and deployment planning.

ASOCC is a bundle of applications and services that provides a platform for first responders at the local, state, and federal levels to share information and collaborate on incident response. To date, the system has over 800 registered users.

The system is part of the Homeland/Security Defense Command and Control Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration (ACTD) and is managed by the U.S. Northern Command (NORTHCOM) and the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA). The SSC New Orleans provides deployment and lifecycle sustainment support for the ASOCC program. Some of the primary activities and responsibilities include system operational testing, release deployment, customer relationship management, training coordination, Tier-1 and Tier-2 support, liaison between end users and developers for Tier-3 support organizations, conducting drills and exercises, processing user account requests, and other help services.

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# A Time to Honor Asian Pacific American Contributions

By Teresa Leger  
SSC NOLA Public Affairs Office

Each May, the Department of Defense takes time to join the nation in honoring the many contributions and the rich cultural heritage of Asian Pacific Americans.

The SSC New Orleans Special Emphasis Committee traditionally provides events in May, which often include speakers, videos, dances, and demonstrations. This year due to the lack of facilities and the displacement of workers, it will not be possible to host such an event. This is one of the many aspects of life at the SSC New Orleans that is sorely missed. Learning more about the contributions and the history of Asian Pacific Americans can provide a better understanding of the enrichment they provide to the American culture.

Asian Pacific Heritage Week was first recognized in June 1978 and included the first ten days of May. In 1990, the celebration was expanded to the entire month of May. May was chosen to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese to the United States on May 7, 1843 and to mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad, which was laid mostly by Chinese immigrants and completed on May 10, 1869.

Like many cultures, Asian Pacific Americans have fought for the freedoms they now have as American citizens. The first immigrants were welcomed, or at least tolerated, and by the 1830s Chinese were selling goods in New York City and working in the sugarcane fields in Hawaii.

When gold was discovered in 1848 in California, thousands of Chinese miners and contract laborers headed west. The number of Asian immigrants went from just over 1,000 in 1850 to nearly 37,000 by 1860. With the influx of Asian immigrants

came an increase in violence and restrictive laws, which included exclusion from citizenship.

However, the Central Pacific Railroad actively recruited Chinese to work on the transcontinental railroad in 1865. Three years later the Chinese and the United States ratified the Burlingame Treaty, which facilitated Chinese immigration.

Many people feared being overwhelmed by the influx of Chinese immigrants, which had swelled to nearly 65,000 in 1870 and over 107,000 by 1880. Some cities passed laws against the Chinese and other Asians, often referred to as Mongolians. Anti-Chinese riots began erupting in California.

At the same time, increasing contact with Japan prompted Japanese to move to Hawaii and California to work in agriculture. In 1899, following the Spanish-American War, the Philippines came under U.S. control, prompting an increase in immigration.

As fear set in after the United States entered World War II, Franklin D. Roosevelt signed an executive order placing 120,000 Americans of Japanese heritage into one of ten internment camps—officially called “relocation centers”—in California, Idaho, Utah, Arizona, Wyoming, Colorado, and Arkansas. More than two-thirds of the Japanese who were interned in the spring of 1942 were citizens of the United States and many did not speak Japanese or have close ties to Japan.

In 1944, two and a half years after signing the executive order for the internment camps, fourth-term President Franklin D. Roosevelt rescinded the order. The last internment camp was closed by the end of 1945.

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The New Direction newsletter is an authorized publication for members of the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center New Orleans (SPAWARSYSCEN New Orleans) and their families. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the U.S. Navy and do not imply endorsement thereof. The editorial content of this newsletter is prepared, edited, and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the SPAWARSYSCEN New Orleans located at 2251 Lakeshore Drive, New Orleans, LA. 70145-0001.

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# SSC NOLA Building Restoration

By Maria LoVasco Tolleson  
SSC NOLA Public Affairs Officer



**(above)** Huge rolls of carpeting are pre-positioned on this floor in building 4 in anticipation of the carpet-laying crew.



**(left)** Contractors with Belfor lay carpet in building 3's fourth floor.

**(above)** Pristine carpet awaits the occupants of building 3's fourth floor. The next step for this floor is the assembling of cubicles.



**(left)** The elevator area in the lobby of building 3 is protected as cubicle walls and furniture are moved in.

**(right)** A contractor with Federal Business Partners from Gulfport secures the cubicles being assembled in the Customer Support Center (CSC). Unlike the standard cubicle configurations on the other floors, CSC personnel work in pod configurations to ease interchange among the Help Desk employees.



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## **SSC NOLA Restoration (continued)**



**(above) The first floor in Building 4 gets a fresh paint job from a contractor with Belfor.**

**(right) The third floor in Building 3 is beginning to take shape. This floor houses the Customer Support Center and the Secure Room.**



**(left) The Customer Support Center is coming together with pod configurations. The wires and cables that will power the workstations hang from the ceiling.**

**(below) This is a prototype of what the new furniture and chairs will look like in the refurbished buildings.**



# SSC NOLA Wins Big at FEB Awards Luncheon

By Teresa Leger, SSC NOLA Public Affairs Office

The SPAWAR Systems Center New Orleans (SSC New Orleans) had a fabulous showing at the annual Federal Executive Board (FEB) awards luncheon which is held each year as part of the Public Service Recognition Week. This year's awards luncheon was held on Tuesday, May 2 at the Embassy Suites Hotel.

Dwayne Green and Lt. Lois Tink were presented with the FEB 2006 Distinguished Service Awards for individuals. They were honored for their individual efforts to safeguard the SSC New Orleans assets prior to and in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and their work in successfully implementing the command's Continuity of Operations Plan.

FEB Distinguished Service Awards for group efforts were presented to the SSC New Orleans Command Staff, and the Medical Readiness Reporting System (MRRS) team.



**(left to right) CAPT Frank Paskewich, guest speaker at the FEB luncheon; SSC New Orleans personnel Dwayne Green, Cheri Couchis, John Kondas, Edura Baham, and Lt. Lois Tink; and William C. Gibson, Jr., 2006 FEB Board Chair pose for a picture with one of the many awards received by the command at the annual FEB awards luncheon.**

## ASOCC (continued)

ASOCC possesses three primary capabilities performed through a web-browser or peer-to-peer configuration: alerting, visualization, and collaboration. In the event of a crisis, users such as the Navy Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officers (NEPLOs), who were working at the emergency operations center in Baton Rouge during Hurricane Katrina, can monitor the event.

In an emergency such as a hurricane, an alert signal is sent to program participants which includes a link to a chat room which has both private and group chat capability thus providing partnering agencies a means for real-time collaboration. The system also features query searches, checklists, and specialized databases, allowing user participation in all phases of the response. In addition to these capabilities, the ASOCC system offers a visual component that enables users to get more detailed displays of structures, routes, and terrains. The system includes a drawing tool and the option of linking to real-time video streams.

Although the SSC New Orleans ASOCC team members which included John Burden, Eddie DeVore, Ridge Bourgeois, Billie Gueno, Thad James, John Depriest, Troy DeMond, Adam Lopez, and Elian Alby did not know the condition of their own homes, they knew the importance of getting the ASOCC system up and running.



**(left to right) Eddie DeVore, Ridge Bourgeois, and Adam Lopez take a much needed break after climbing five flights of stairs and carrying down ASOCC equipment which would later be reassembled to keep the program running.**

[Continued](#)



# Visitors

**RADM Godwin** - RADM James B. Godwin, III, Direct Reporting Program Manager for Navy Marine Corps Intranet, visited the SSC New Orleans for two days during which he discussed the Manpower, Personnel, Training, and Education (MPT&E) organization with the leadership. (Pictured at right with Capt. Fred J. Mingo, Jr. SSC New Orleans Commanding Officer.)



**Mr. Murray Rowe** - Chief Information Officer (CIO) of MPT&E, Mr. Jim Bouzios - Deputy CIO, MPT&E, and Capt. David Ruff - PERS 4 visited the SSC NOLA facility on Friday, 28 April.

## FEB Awards (continued)

The SSC New Orleans command staff was recognized for their decisive action to safeguard the organization's people and assets as well as their ability to continue to provide services and support to the customers with employees geographically dispersed.

Nicolle Algero, Ronnie Breaux, Brent Drexel, Keith Durapau, Warren Eder, Rickey Heitmeier, Steven Hollars, Robert Parish, Hasmukh Patel and Kathy Roth were part of the MRRS team which was recognized for the exceptional work they performed in providing enhancements to MRRS. The enhancements have resulted in numerous improvements in the data collection and dissemination process necessary for Command Control of Selected Reserve medical management and reporting. They have provided the Navy Reserve with an automated method for calculating medical readiness assessment at the Unit, Command, and Headquarters level and have improved the Navy Reserve's ability to meet mobilization and readiness requirements effectively and efficiently.

## **Important Numbers and Web Sites**

- Navy Global Distance Support Center (to update your location and contact information), 1-877-418-6824, Option 2 or [www.anchordesk.navy.mil](http://www.anchordesk.navy.mil)
- BUPERS 24-hour Helpline, 1-877-414-5358
- Safe Haven Orders, 1-866-239-0303
- 24-hour Support Hotline, 1-800-677-5327
- Community Support Center, 504-678-7569
- Per Diem Rates <https://secureapp2.hqda.pentagon.mil/perdiem/perdiemrates.html>
- FEMA, 1-800-621-3362 or [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)
- Red Cross, [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)
- DOD Civilian Personnel Management Service: Hurricane Information for DOD Civilian Employees and Annuitants, <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/hurricaneinfo/index.htm>
- Civilian Employee Assistance Program, 1-800-677-LEAP
- Federal Tax Relief, [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov), select " help for hurricane victims"
- Guidance for Navy and Marine Corps Personnel in Hurricane Disaster Areas - <http://taskforcenavyfamily.navy.mil/Content/RecoveringFromADisaster-Final.pdf>

## **Asian Pacific Heritage Month** **(continued)**

In 1988 Congress passed a measure giving \$20,000 to Japanese Americans who had been interned during the war. Many lost their homes and businesses during the years they were held captive.

The McCarran-Walter Act of 1952

eliminated race as a barrier to immigration, and in 1965 national quotas were ended, thus further facilitating Asian immigration.

The Immigration Act of 1990 increased the numbers of Asians coming to the U.S. by raising the total quota and reorganizing a system of preferences to favor certain professional groups. This allowed

Asians with training in medicine, technology, and other specialties to enter more easily. In 1990 nearly 5 million Asian immigrants were reported.

Today, Asian Pacific Americans continue to provide America with a wealth of knowledge, skills, and traditions as they continue to contribute to the unique culture called the American culture.

## Asian Pacific American Firsts

Below are some of the many firsts for Asian Pacific Americans.

1901 Jokichi Takamine isolated epinephrine (adrenaline) from the suprarenal gland.

1921 Anna May Wong was the first movie star. She starred in the film *Bits of Life* and many other movies.

1932 Katherine Sui Fun Cheung became the first female aviator.

1943 Young Oak Kim was the first to command a combat battalion.

1946 Wing F. Ong was the first State legislator. He was elected to the Arizona House of Representatives

1949 An Wang invented pulse transfer controlling device leading to magnetic core memory

1956 Dalip Singh Saund was elected as a U.S. representative from California.

1959 Hiram Fong was one of Hawaii's first two U.S. senators.

1964 Patsy Takemoto Mink was the first female Asian American elected to Congress from Hawaii.

1971 Herbert Choy was the first federal court judge appointed to the U.S. court of appeals for the ninth circuit

Norman Yoshio Mineta was the first Mayor of a major city. He was elected in San Jose, California.

1974 George R. Ariyoshi was the first governor of Hawaii

Ken Kashiwahara and Connie Chung were the first network news reporters.

1984 Flossie Wong-Staal cloned the AIDS virus.

Haing Ngor was the first Academy Award winner as Best Supporting Actor of 1984 for his role in *The Killing Field*.

1985 Ellison Onizuka was the first Astronaut in space. She died in 1986 in the Challenger disaster.

1989 Julia Chang Bloch was the first U.S. ambassador. She was ambassador to the Kingdom of Nepal.

Emil Guillermo was the first anchor of a national radio program as host of NPR's *All Things Considered*.

1992 Eugene Chung was the first Asian American selected in the first round of NFL draft.

1993 Connie Chung became the first nightly news anchor for a major network (CBS).

1994 Margaret Cho was the first star of her own network TV series called *All American Girl*

1996 Gary Locke was the first Asian American elected as governor on the mainland as governor of Washington.

2000 Norman Yoshio Mineta was appointed as secretary of commerce. In 2001, he became the first cabinet member to switch directly from a Democratic to Republican cabinet—becoming secretary of transportation.

2001 Elaine Chao was the first female Asian American cabinet member. She was appointed secretary of labor.

# Mandatory NSPS Training for Government Personnel

As part of the SSC New Orleans' transition to the National Security Personnel System (NSPS), all government civilian employees and any military supervisors of civilian employees are required to complete the NSPS 101 online course.

This course provides an excellent overview of NSPS, including classification, conversion, compensation, performance management, and workforce shaping. As the implementation date approaches, more in-depth training will be scheduled for all employees. The implementation date for the SSC New Orleans is still scheduled to begin January 2007.

This course may be accessed via your web browser at <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/> by selecting the link for "NSPS 101 With Conversion Calculator" under the main heading of "What's New." The duration of this course is between 1 to 2 hours, depending upon your connection speed. The deadline for completion is Friday, 9 June 2006.

To receive credit for completion, a copy of the completion certificate must be forward to the SSC New Orleans Training Administrator, Ms. Charnelle Brown at fax (228) 813-1004, DSN 446-1004.

If you have any questions or problems with the course, please contact the Human Resources Division Head, Mr. John Kondas at (228) 813-1017, DSN 446-1017 or Ms. Charnelle Brown at (228) 813-1039, DSN 446-1039.

# Charter School Open to Research and Technology Park Tenants

By Teresa Leger  
SSC NOLA Public Affairs Office

A quality education within the Orleans Parish Public schools is now available for any Research and Technology Park tenant residing in Orleans Parish.

The University of New Orleans (UNO) has partnered with Edward Hynes Charter School, formerly Edward Hynes Elementary School, in Lakeview. Pre-K gifted and kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes will be available at the newly formed Hynes charter school. The school is also now open to UNO employees or tenants of the Research and Technology Park who reside in Orleans Parish.

Hynes has had a reputation as a very good public school for the past 53 years. It will continue to offer a premiere French Immersion Program for grades Kindergarten through 6 which is taught by native French speaking teachers. Gifted services for students in Pre-Kindergarten through 8th grade, as well as Talented in the Visual Arts and Theatre will also be a part of the curriculum for qualifying students.

Services such as OT, PT, APE, and Speech will be available for students with special education needs. The school will also provide all the services guaranteed by the public school system. Library, computer, physical education, and music instruction will enhance the curriculum for all students and a variety of extra-curricular activities will be available. This partnership will open new educational opportunities for students and provide the Hynes faculty with state-of-the-art educational practices.

The current school building was greatly damaged and will not be available to start the 2006-07 school year. The interim location for Hynes Charter School has not been finalized, but will be in close proximity to Lakeview. The goal will be to minimize the distance students will have to travel. Bus service from centralized locations will also be available.

[Continued](#)



# Kudos

## OPAS & NSIPS Web A&O teams

Captain (Fred Mingo),

Your interview with CHIPS was very interesting reading. I would like to say that your staff has provided nothing less than great support, even after being displaced.

PeopleSoft OPAS and NSIPS Web A&O were not listed. I know that these are two of the smallest systems within your area of responsibility. However, we have the biggest impact on our naval officers.

Mr. Wayne Robinson, Ms. Suzanne White, and Mr. Don Tesdell have bent over backwards to support PS OPAS. We were only off line for two weeks and with their help we were able to get back on line, realign the data base and produce the monthly messages on time. During the temporary assignment in Millington, they worked hand in hand with our staff, training our personnel on the PS OPAS system and providing enhanced improvements to our system.

Mr. Ken Gallaher, Mr. Ron Couch, and Ms. Cathy Folse have worked directly with our staff on the Web A&O Program. This system was only off line for a couple of days. They also took advantage of being located here in Millington to work with our staff on system improvements.

Words cannot say how much these individuals have supported our efforts to complete our mission. We were able to provide data for selection boards, produce monthly promotion NAVADMIN messages, promote officers on time (and updating their pay) and issue commissioning documents.

David Lanham

LEAD POST BOARD MATTERS

PERS-48023

## Annual Information Assurance Awareness Training

It is time for the completion of the annual Information Assurance Awareness training required by the Department of the Navy (DON) for all users of Navy systems. This includes military, civilian, and contractor personnel.

The training must be completed by **June 30, 2006**. Anyone who does not complete the training prior to the deadline will have their account disabled and their access to the SSC New Orleans facilities suspended.

To complete the training, please follow the steps below:

1. Log into the NKO Portal at <http://www.nko.navy.mil>. This page also has instructions for new/guest users. Anyone that cannot register as a new user and must register as a guest account please list your sponsor as Karon.franks.
2. Select the LEARNING tab.
3. Click on the Navy E Learning area.
4. Click on Browse Categories under Content on the left side.
5. Select US Department of the Navy (DON).
6. Select Information Assurance (IA)
7. Click the NEXT button on the right hand of the screen.
8. Select the DOD Information Assurance Awareness link.
9. Click on the ENROLL NOW button.
10. Click the LAUNCH! Button and take the course. Select "Yes" when the option is given to display non-secure items.
11. Upon completion a box will appear in the upper left asking if the course was completed. Select "Yes" so that the Completion Certificate will appear in "My Transcripts."

The course takes approximately 1 hour to complete. Please send the completion certificate to Karon Franks at [karon.franks@navy.mil](mailto:karon.franks@navy.mil). Capture a copy of the certificate from the "My Transcripts" section by doing a "Print Screen." Then paste the screen capture into a Microsoft Word document, save it and send it to Ms. Franks as an attachment in an e-mail.

For assistance logging into the NKO, contact the NKO helpdesk at (850) 452-1001, Option 1; DSN: 922-1001, Option 1; or toll free at (877) 253-7122, Option 2.

## Charter School (continued)

Applications for the 2006-2007 school year will be accepted through June 2. Due to the current circumstances of many Orleans Parish residents, applications will be accepted both in person and by mail. Applications may be downloaded or picked up at the University of New Orleans, Health and PE Building, corner of Elysian Fields and Leon C. Simon, or at Gulf Coast Bank & Trust on Harrison Avenue. Please refer to the Hynes Charter School application available at [www.hynesschool.org](http://www.hynesschool.org) for specific instructions.

Completed applications will be accepted Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the University of New Orleans Health & Physical Education Center and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Harrison Avenue Branch of Gulf Coast Bank until the June 2 deadline.

For the first year of Hynes Charter School, forty students per grade will be accepted, creating a total school population of 400 students. For this year only, Orleans residency for **returning** students will be waived because of the lengthy process of rebuilding homes.

In order to qualify for the lottery, the application must be complete with no pending information. Names for prospective students with completed applications will be entered into the lottery according to the following tiers:

- Tier 1: Formerly enrolled Hynes students and their gifted pre-kindergarten or kindergarten siblings and their twins who reside within the attendance zone (in-district), students of Hynes Charter School faculty.
- Tier 2: Formerly enrolled Hynes students and their gifted pre-K and kindergarten siblings and their twins who resided out of the attendance zone (out-of-district), but within Orleans Parish.
- Tier 3: New students and their twins residing within the attendance zone.
- Tier 4: Students (twins included) of parents working at the University of New Orleans and the Research and Technology Park and residing within Orleans Parish.
- Tier 5: New out of zone students and their twins residing in Orleans Parish.

The lottery is scheduled for June 9, 2006. Notification of acceptance to Hynes Charter School will be mailed by June 16 and a waiting list will be established and maintained until October 1, 2006. School is scheduled to begin August 16.

All questions should be directed to [hynes2006@cox.net](mailto:hynes2006@cox.net) or visit the web site at <http://www.hynesschool.org/> for further details.

## Last Day to Claim Personal Items Approaching

Thursday, **May 25** will be the last day to claim personal items located in the SSC New Orleans garage.

All items in the garage that are not segregated for retention or shredding will be discarded into dumpsters.

The command will not be responsible for any unclaimed items or private information that may end up in the public landfill.

## **ASOCC (continued)**

While the interim system was being assembled in Washington, other team members concentrated on extracting the production equipment from the SSC New Orleans facilities and relocating it to DISA Slidell.

As the team focused on dismantling the production equipment, they were faced with yet another challenge. Slidell too was devastated by the hurricane and lodging was simply not available. Troy DeMond willingly opened his home in Slidell for team members to stay even though it too suffered damage. This enabled the team to work out of the DISA Slidell facilities as they reconstructed the ASOCC production environment and were fully operational within three weeks.

First responders and disaster managers, both locally and nationally, began using the system providing a positive impact to the response and relief efforts. The ASOCC system was used by the NEPLOs to track the capabilities of surrounding regions unaffected by the disaster and assist responders in directing their assets to provide assistance to affected areas.

Prior to Katrina, the Infralynx Van which is part of the ACTD was pre-positioned at Camp Shelby in Mississippi. The Infralynx Van provides satellite communication in emergency situations. Once the hurricane passed, the van was positioned in Belle Chasse, Louisiana and was utilized by first responders such as Lt. General Russel Honore, Commander Joint Task Force Katrina. When Hurricane Rita hit a month later, the van was moved west to provide further assistance.

As proven in both the September 11, 2001 attacks



**The Infralynx Van pictured above was positioned in Belle Chasse immediately after Hurricane Katrina hit. It was dispatched to West Louisiana a month later when Hurricane Rita ravaged that side of the state.**

and now the natural disasters of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, communication was critical within the Department of Defense, but also with the first responders such as local and state police, firefighters, and emergency preparedness centers. "ASOCC provided the needed information sharing," said John Burden, Homeland Security Project Manager.

The ASOCC team members truly worked together not only to help their customers, but to help the people of the Gulf Coast. In spite of all the obstacles they faced as a team and in their personal lives, they were able to get the job done.